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How to manage the unfunded vaccine topic  
in general practice

9:40

# Disclosures



Board Member of Immunisation Coalition

Received Honorarium from GSK, MSD and Seqirus for presentations/advisory boards



The **Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)** is a [technical advisory group](#) of the [Australian Government](#). As part of the [Department of Health](#), ATAGI provides advice to the [Minister of Health](#) on the immunisation program of Australia and related matters, including the strength of evidence pertaining to existing, new, and emerging vaccines

- The main role of ATAGI is to provide advice on the administration of vaccinations related to the [National Immunisation Program](#) (NIP) to the Minister of Health
- Advisory on the ongoing immunisation research or the most needed areas
- furnish industry supports with pre-accommodation guidance for likely entries to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) on immunisation viability and use in Australia. ATAGI guidance should be looked for before support making an accommodation to the PBAC
- Discussion with pertinent associations to create the Australian Immunisation Handbook
- Discussion with significant associations in carrying out vaccination arrangements, strategies and immunization security

# Australian Immunisation Schedule



IMMUNISATION  
COALITION

- The National Immunisation Program (NIP) Schedule is a series of immunisations given at specific times throughout your life. The immunisations range from birth through to adulthood.
- All vaccines listed in the NIP Schedule are free. Eligibility for free vaccines under the NIP is linked to [eligibility for Medicare benefits](#).
- Eligible people can get catch-up vaccines for free up to age 20, except for the HPV vaccine which is available free up to and including age 25.
- The number and range of vaccines and doses that are eligible for NIP funded catch-up is different for people aged less than 10 years and those aged 10–19 years.
- Refugees and humanitarian entrants of any age are eligible for free catch-up vaccines.
- State and territory health departments also fund some additional vaccines. It is important to also check the immunisation schedule for your area.



**Australian Government**

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**Department of Health  
and Aged Care**



Australian  
**Immunisation**  
Handbook

The Australian Immunisation Handbook provides clinical advice for health professionals on the safest and most effective use of vaccines in their clinical practice

These recommendations are developed by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation- (ATAGI) and approved by the National Health and Medical Research Council- (NHMRC).

Important to use the electronic version either Web based platform or App as constantly being updated

# Hepatitis B

Information about hepatitis B disease, vaccines and recommendations for vaccination from the Australian Immunisation Handbook.

Vaccination for certain groups of people is funded under the [National Immunisation Program](#) and by [states and territories](#).

## Contents

- ↓ Overview
- ↓ Recommendations
- ↓ Vaccines, dosage and administration ↑



# Funded vs Recommended

- Immunocompromised
- ATSI
- Age specific eg Meningococcal Vaccinations in infants and teenagers
- Disease Specific Pneumococcal vaccinations in certain disease states – [PneumoSmart Vaccination Tool \(immunisationcoalition.org.au\)](#)
- Occupation Specific – Q fever in abattoir workers
- International Travel
- Pregnancy
- Prisoners MSM IVDU Sex workers



## Available via NIP, State programs & private prescription<sup>1-3</sup>



NIP



State programs\*



Private prescription

MenACWY

- 12 months of age
- Adolescents in year 10 (~14 to 16 years), with a catch up for those aged 15 to 19 years
- People of all ages with specified medical risk conditions that increase their risk of IMD

- WA has an extended program

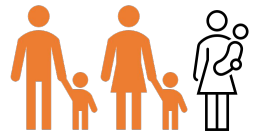
- From 6 weeks of age<sup>‡</sup>

MenB

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants at 2, 4 and 12 months<sup>†</sup>
- Catch-up: for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under 2 years until 30 June 2023
- People of all ages with specified medical risk conditions that increase their risk of IMD

- SA only – for infants up to 12 months and adolescents in Year 10

- From 2 months of age<sup>‡</sup>



2 out of 3 parents are not aware their children need different vaccines for different meningococcal strains<sup>§,4</sup>

\*The specifics of each program varies. Please refer to your state or territory health department for more details. <sup>†</sup>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with risk conditions for IMD require an additional dose at 6 months of age. <sup>‡</sup>Age indication is brand dependant. <sup>§</sup>Based on market research online survey conducted in Australia with 3948 participants comprise of a sample of parents of 0–17-year-olds and a general population sample (representative of the population by gender, age and location)<sup>4</sup>

**Abbreviations:** IMD: invasive meningococcal disease; NIP: National Immunisation Program.

**References:** 1. National Immunisation Program Schedule. <https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/national-immunisation-program-schedule.pdf>. 2. Department of Health, National Immunisation Program Meningococcal vaccination schedule from 1 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/06/national-immunisation-program-meningococcal-vaccination-schedule-from-1-july-2020-clinical-advice-for-vaccination-providers.pdf>. 3. South Australian Immunisation Program Schedule. <https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/health+topics/health+conditions+prevention+and+treatment/immunisation/immunisation+programs/immunisation+programs>. 4. Data on file. IPSOS National Meningococcal Disease Awareness Campaign Survey, conducted on behalf of GSK. Australia, August 2019.

# Practical Points

- Health Professionals need to inform and educate patients
- We need to be aware of the vaccine recommendations and discuss them with our patients and their caregivers
- Non-judgemental re affordability and access
- Can be useful to stock non funded vaccines to facilitate cold chain/convenience